



Steve Troxler
Commissioner

**North Carolina Department of Agriculture
and Consumer Services**
Division of Soil and Water Conservation

Patricia K. Harris
Director

DRAFT

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING: THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2014, 9:30AM – 12:00PM

4TH FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM, ARCHDALE BUILDING RALEIGH, NC & TELECONFERENCE/WEBINAR

- I. Welcome and Introductions
Mike Dupree, Gary Higgins, Anthony Hester, Natalie Woolard, Kacy Cook, Jeff Young, Steve Trowell, Bill Hart, Julie Henshaw, Tom Hill
- II. Review and approval of May 2014 minutes
Approved as presented.
- III. FY 2015 Budget Status Update and Soil and Water Conservation Commission actions
 - a. FY2015 funding: No changes proposed for this year.
 - i. Discuss substituting funding for state position from other sources in order to provide additional funds for BMP implementation.
 - b. Technical assistance allocation: ½ of the state support for Dare and New Hanover Soil and Water Conservation Districts provided from CCAP TA funds.
 - c. Detailed implementation plan: No changes for this year
- IV. Cost share program rule revisions
 - a. Julie reviewed ongoing process. The proposed rules will hopefully merge the three existing programs (ACSP, CCAP, and AgWRAP) into one. Julie has worked with the Rules Review Commission and they have tentatively agreed to this approach. Additional work will be conducted on the rules revisions for some time. Julie will keep the group apprised of the ongoing activities. The rules are due for revision by July 2017.
 - b. Mike Dupree reminded the group of the idea of providing one allocation to districts, allowing local boards to decide how to fund contracts among programs. It was discussed that this could not be an option at this time due to the current legislation that distinguishes and appropriates funds to each program by statute.

MAILING ADDRESS

Division of Soil and Water Conservation
1614 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1614

Telephone: 919-733-2302
Fax Number: 919-733-3559

An Equal Opportunity Employer

LOCATION

Archdale Building
512 N. Salisbury Street, Suite 504
Raleigh, NC 27604

- V. Consideration of revisions to the Permeable Pavement BMP
The group discussed the previous issues raised regarding the revision along with the proposed changes. Annette Lucas with DEMLR provided input on the revision via email (she was unable to attend this meeting). The language for item #2 was accepted as suggested. Kacy Cook suggested some wording to clarify item #4. This wording was accepted by the group. Bill Hart moved to approve amended BMP and recommend to the Commission for consideration, Kacy Cook seconded the motion. Passed. For more information, please refer to Attachment A: Draft permeable pavement BMP
- VI. Job Approval Authority
Natalie Woolard provided a presentation of the proposed changes to the methods of obtaining Job Approval Authority (JAA) for CCAP practices by district employees, including new testing protocols for CCAP JAA. Mike Dupree moved to approve changes to the Soil and Water Conservation Commission Job Approval Authority Categories along with recommendations proposed by district employees who provide feedback prior to the August Commission meeting. Bill Hart seconded. Approved. For more information, please refer to Attachment B: Soil and Water Conservation Commission Job Approval Authority Categories, and Attachment C: New Testing Protocol for CCAP JAA.
- VII. BMP standards
Tom Hill presented a list of the existing BMP standards along with a list including links to the suggested new standards. Jeff Young made a motion to approve the revised specifications as amended, Gary Higgins seconded. Approved. For more information, please refer to Attachment D: CCAP Specifications.
- VIII. Average cost list revision
Mike Dupree had asked that excavation be considered as a component to the cistern BMP. Discussion from the group centered on the issue of districts potentially cost sharing on burying tanks, which does not provide water quality benefit and should not be cost-shared. The group decided to adjust the average costs for gravel and concrete components in the existing cistern BMP average costs, once data was available. Information regarding the increased costs for excavation for gravel and concrete pads was unavailable at the meeting. The group decided to have Mike Dupree research the costs and provide them to the committee. Bill Hart made a motion to approve the increase in average cost for these components based upon the information that Mike would provide to the committee in advance of the August Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting. Kacy Cook seconded. The motion passed.
- IX. Wildlife Resources Commission: Green Growth Toolbox:
Kacy Cook with the NC Wildlife Resources Commission gave a presentation on the Green Growth Toolbox. This program helps local municipalities and other landusers assess how to properly integrate wildlife and other conservation resource concerns into their development plans. The GIS based tool utilizes current data of significant natural resource areas, buffers, and other pertinent data, coupled with training sessions for local staff, on how to incorporate better land use decisions when considering community development projects. Kacy noted the Association's endorsement of program. Kacy offered her assistance to any interested participants. For more information, please refer to Attachment E: Green Growth Toolbox presentation.

X. Open discussion

- It was suggested to update definition of cistern BMP to include reuse
- It was suggested to develop a draft policy for riparian buffer to allow JAA by forester
- There was discussion on how to organize to get more funding for CCAP:
 - League of Conservation Voters?
 - Need all directors/commissions to get letters of support for CCAP or share good stories about CCAP.
- A dune infiltration system installed at Kure Beach by the NCSU BAE group (Dr. Mike Burchell) was discussed. This innovative practice shows some effectiveness in selected areas of stormwater outfalls on the coast.